Acquisition of Land for Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam

302. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to acquire land at Visakhapatnam for establishing a free trade zone;

(b) if so what is the extent of land needed and the actual area acquired;

(c) which industries will be encouraged to be started in this free trade zone; and

(d) what incentives are being offered to the industries for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Different locations suggested by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for a proposed Export processing Zone at Visakhapatnam have been inspected. Action for acquisition of land has not been initiated. It is estimated that about 300—400 acres of land would be required for an E.P. Zone.

(c) A decision has not been taken in this regard.

(d) Incentives offered in all the Export Processing Zones are similar and include duty free import capital goods and components; a tax holiday for five years and 'deemed Exports' benefits on supplies from the Domestic Tariff Area.

Incentives for Silk Production

303. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO.

SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what incentives have been offered by the Central Government to encourage silk production in the country;

(b) what are the names of the States where production of silk is high;

(c) what steps are being taken to produce high quality silk fabrics for sale at internationally competitive prices; and

(d) what are the figures of silk exports during the period 1983-86?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government to encourage silk production in the country, Central Government through the Central Silk Board, provides assistance to the farmers in the form of subsidised supply of mulberry cuttings in new areas, and supply of quality disease-free layings at reasonable rates. In addition, technical guidance and training are provided to farmers by the Board through a network of Research Extension Centres. The Board is also implementing intensive sericulture development projects to enhance silk production in the country.

(b) Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh; Tamil Nadu; and West Bengal.

(c) In order to enable exporters to produce slik fabrics at internationally competitive prices, raw material is allowed for import under various export incentive schemes of the Govern-

ment of India such as REP|ALS & Import-Export Pass-Book Scheme.

(d) :

	Year	Rs. (in crores)
1.	1983-84	111.67
2.	1984-85	129.05
3.	1985-86	1 59.82

Cut-down of Losses in NTC

304. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what fresh steps have been taken by the National Textile Corporation to cut down its losses and increase its profits;

(b) whether the NTC guidelines aim at gradual change in the pattern of production by going into the production of finer cloth;

(c) whether Government had proposed to close a few of the weaker mills under NTC;

(d) if so, what are names of such mills which are proposed to be closed down;

(e) whether any restructuring of the exising marketing and distribution system has also been contemplated; and

(f) what are the other modernisation programmes proposed to meet the competition from the private mills?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Some of the important steps taken/being taken to reduce the losses of NTC are given below:

(i) reduction in wage cost by implementing labour rationalisation;

(ii) greater enforcement of accountability of top managesrs;

(iii) selective modernisation programme|stategies have been adopted for result-oriented gains within available resources;

(iv) implementation of workers' participation scheme in the management of mills of NTC;

(v) improvement in production;

(vi) strict control and supervision on the filing up of vacant posts;

(vii) infucing better management at all levels;

(viii) identifying the mills as profit centres and delegation of power and authority for General Managers of the mills, with responsibility for performance.

(b) The guidelines issued by NTC (Holding companies) to its subsidiary corporations contemplate improving the product mix and product range and undertaking concerted efforts towords improved product development.

(c) and (d) No final decision has been taken regarding the closure of any NTC mill so far.

(e) No radical structural changes are proposed at present.

(f) During the Seventh Plan period, an outlay of Rs. 117 crores